

# SEPTEMBER 2020



365 *Picture Today*

# 365 Picture Today!

Is it really September? How can it be? Somehow the 2020 calendar has moved forward even though we feel like we are still stuck in March! Can you feel it in the air? Autumn...

Autumn is an amazing time to be a photographer. The colors and textures of the season are stunning. As the leaves are dying and falling, they create some amazing and vivid beauty. The light is different and changing constantly. The smells are different. There is a sensory explosion!

There are days that are still warm, the nights begin to chill, change is on the way. Can you feel it?

How do you feel about change? Do you wish things would always be same or are you a person who likes to change it up? How does that translate to photography.

Have you ever seen an image and known exactly who photographed it? I see that in our community. Some photographers have a sense of style and purpose and you can identify their work immediately. It could be the subject, composition or even editing style that gives it away.

Some of us dabble in lots of different areas and you can't always identify the photographer.

All of it is OKAY!

But, the message I want to convey this month is "embrace change" and "take a chance."

The changing seasons are necessary. The death in the Fall and Winter leads to growth in the Spring and Summer.

If you take the same types of photos and edit them the exact same way every day, you may start to get bored or feel stale.

Challenge yourself to try something new, or photograph in a different place, or experiment with editing. Instead of being overwhelming and scary, you might find it gives you that spark you need and helps you to exercise your creative muscle.

*Amy, Garnett, Kris and Lee*



SEPTEMBER 1

## No Rhyme (Nor Reason Day)

On September 1st we recognize words that do not rhyme...  
and for this I have no reason!

The most popular unrhymable word is Orange.

Here are a few more that poets have been avoiding for centuries when verse is of the utmost importance; silver, chimney, purple, woman, ninth, month.

So in the spirit of the day let's photograph something for no reason at all!

Amy



SEPTEMBER 2

## Blueberry Popsicle Day

This holiday commemorates the creation of the popsicle as well as the underappreciated flavor of blueberry. Blueberry is considered to be a flavor underdog compared to the more popular cherry, grape, and orange.

For today's photo you could enjoy a delightful and refreshing frozen treat, or, take a different approach highlighting the blueberry itself, or, make it about the color Blue!

Here's a blueberry closeup in its natural habitat. Our local Arboretum has an area called Blueberry Cove full of native High-bush Blueberries that birds and deer just love to snack on!

Amy



SEPTEMBER 3

## U.S. Bowling League Day BLACK & WHITE

Traditionally on today, leagues of bowlers of all ages would play in competitions around the world. Depending on where you live, the Covid-19 pandemic has likely put a damper on those plans.

Let's add a photography twist while also incorporating Black & White Day!

When I think of bowling the first thing that comes to mind are the crazy patterns of the bowling balls, shoes and lanes. There are often lots of stripes, checkerboard and swirly patterns.

Since it is Black & White Day I encourage you to let the lack of color make those crazy patterns really stand out! As in this photo of a few clumps of variegated grasses - when processed in B&W the ordinary stripe pattern becomes quite striking!

Have some fun with it - take a variety of photos to process and show us which one catches your eye!

Amy



#### SEPTEMBER 4 Wildlife Day

National Wildlife Day was founded in 2006 by animal advocate Colleen Paige, in memory of the beloved wildlife expert and conservationist Steve Irwin. It was a way to honor Irwin's tireless devotion to animal species worldwide, and his dedication to educating the public about the incredible animals with whom we share this planet.

Often times you don't have to go to far to find wildlife; as with this Mama Duck watching over her little ones as they play in a parking lot puddle.

Show us the wildlife in your corner of the world!

Amy



#### SEPTEMBER 5 Cheese Pizza Day

Pizza is by far America's favorite food. It all started with the first pizza establishment in New York's Little Italy back in 1905.

There aren't too many foods that have the popularity of Pizza; it is celebrated with its own month, week and about a dozen National Days.

Here are some more fun facts:

- Over 3 billion pizzas are sold annually in America. That's 350 slices of pizza per person every second.
- The most requested topping is Pepperoni; with 251.7 million pounds consumed annually!
- Top 5 pizza sales days are: Super Bowl Sunday, New Year's Eve, Halloween, the night before Thanksgiving, & New Year's Day.
- The Guinness World Record Pizza weighed in at 26,883 pounds! It was 122 ft. 8 in. in diameter, made with 9,920 pounds of flour, 3,960 pounds of cheese, 1,763 pounds of mushrooms, 1,984 pounds of tomato puree, and 1,984 pounds of chopped tomatoes.

Since half of Americans eat pizza once a week and Saturday is the most popular day to consume pizza the odds are in our favor that its what for dinner for both you and me!

Amy



#### SEPTEMBER 6 Read a Book Day

According to the National Day Calendar, National Read A Book Day is observed annually on September 6th. On August 9th, we all celebrated National Book Lovers Day. While these days may seem similar, National Read a Book Day invites us ALL to grab a book we might enjoy and spend the day reading.

You can certainly do that... and show us what you are reading.

Or.. you can use the day to practice still life photography. Still life photography is all about light and composition. When you set up your scene, think about what kind of light you want. Side light? Back light? or Front Light? How you can place your objects to make them interesting? Do you want to have light and bright photos or dark and moody? Think about your background. Do you want it to be visible or faded out?

How can you create a Still Life Photograph today that highlights a book?

Garnett



SEPTEMBER 7  
**Labor Day**  
SELF PORTRAIT

It is Labor Day in the U.S. which means a long weekend. If it wasn't 2020, then most would be excited about this weekend. This year however, with most of use being at home a lot more, it doesn't really seem much like a holiday.

Since it's a self portrait day, let's think about how to approach this differently. Our Labor today is to think of an interesting way to capture ourself. I normally wear glasses... when I take a photo without them, sometimes people don't even know it's me!

You can take a photo using just one part of you... your eye, your mouth, hands, feet. Try taking a photo that leaves people wondering who it is they are looking at. You could put on a hat and sunglasses. You could take a photo of the back of you. You can angle or tilt or do something else to distort the view.

Stretch your creativity today. In my example photo, I am not wearing my glasses, I closed my eyes, the photo is converted to B&W and I used Light and Shadow Play to trick the eye into not landing on a particular subject. It really doesn't look like me does it?

Can't wait to see you come up with today!

Garnett



SEPTEMBER 8  
**Ampersand Day**

Today is Ampersand day of all things! Some of you are asking "what is an ampersand" and some of you are asking "why do I care?"

The ampersand is a ligature of "e" & "t"? That's "et" in Latin, meaning "and." &

So today is "&" day.

Today you can be on the look-out for ampersands.... or.... you can use text to create your own in post processing.

Here are a few ideas to get you started for quotes you can add to your photos:

- "I can & and I will"
- "Be Still & Know"
- "Here, there & Everywhere"

Get the idea? You can make your own ampersand quote or search for one.

Garnett



SEPTEMBER 9  
**Teddy Bear Day**

It's Teddy Bear Day. Did you ever wonder where the Teddy Bear originated? According to the National Day Calendar, In 1902, American President Theodore Roosevelt refused to shoot a bear cub while hunting in Mississippi. This incident made national news. A cartoon of the event was published in the Washington Post on November 16th, 1902. The caricature became an instant classic. The cartoon of Teddy Roosevelt and the cub inspired New York store owner Morris Michtom to create a new toy. Morris Michtom wrote President Roosevelt to ask permission to name the new toy a "Teddy Bear." And there you have it!

So today is about nostalgia. Do you have a special toy from childhood you can photograph? Do you have any of your kids' stuffed animals or blankets? When you edit today, try to use a vintage feel. Normally to create the nostalgic look, a matte finish works well. There are many presets and apps that do this for you. If you want to try it yourself in lightroom or photoshop, push the light towards the right in your histogram.

Whatever you decide to post today, tell us the story behind it so that we can go down memory lane with you!

Garnett



SEPTEMBER 10  
**Swap Ideas Day**  
 GUEST PROMPT

National Swap Ideas Day encourages us to share creative and helpful ideas with someone else and trade them for their thoughts instead. Swapping ideas can spark and inspire others to try something new. And so in the spirit of swapping ideas, today let's do something new or different. Try a new technique you've been wanting try. For example, Panning, intentional blur, or using a slow shutter speed with an ND filter. Maybe it's as simple as moving from auto mode on your camera to AV mode and playing with different aperture settings to see the different effects. If you use your phone, try a new filter, or a new effect on a new app. Maybe you have phone attachments that you've been meaning to play with. Get them out and play.

Whatever you choose to photograph, share your settings and/or process and tell us a little about your experience and results. I've been working on some intentional blur shots inspired by Freeman Patterson (google him...his work is really good !) In this photo my ISO was 64 at F16 with a 1/3 sec exposure. And of course a little camera movement. By swapping ideas, maybe we can all spark a little creativity and learn something in the process.

Julie Bush



SEPTEMBER 11  
**Hot Cross Buns Day**

Don't worry about the title, we don't have a food prompt today!

Yes, It is Hot Cross Buns Day; but, we are concentrating on the cross part of the prompt. (If you feel led to make and/or photograph hot cross buns, please do so!)

In your travels today, be on the look-out for crosses or x's that you can photograph. You can get creative with word or letter tiles; or you can use a letterboard. You can also approach the prompt using the "x" or "cross" pattern as composition. Place your object where the x or cross intersects for a symmetrical look.

Places you can find crosses or x's: Church buildings, cemeteries, railroad crossings, animal crossings, etc.

Garnett



SEPTEMBER 12  
**National Encouragement Day**

It is National Encouragement Day. We all need a bit of encouragement now and then. Let me remind you today that: You are unique, you bring something special to this community, your photography encourages everyone in the community, and we couldn't do this without YOU!

Take a photo of something that encourages you or that you want to use to encourage others.

My photo was taken using free-lensing. I was always afraid to try this technique and once I did, with practice, it became something I love! Free lensing involves removing the lens from your camera body, turning it around, and then holding it while you manual focus on your subject. You can get some very creative photos. I encourage you to try this sometime! It's not as scary as it looks.

So let me encourage you in this way... if you think you aren't talented or good enough, you are wrong! You are just what we need here in the community!

Garnett



SEPTEMBER 13

## Kids Take Over the Kitchen Day

This kid was born into a family of foodies so it is no surprise that he is comfortable and confident with his chef skills at fourteen months!

"When children take an active part in their family mealtimes, they not only learn to eat healthier. Mealtime is a social activity. We learn about each others' days and take an interest in each others' lives. Mealtimes are enormously productive when we work together and enjoy together as families."

So many of our family memories somehow revolve around food and mealtime. Today, even if you don't have children at your house, photograph togetherness in the kitchen. Who is the chef and who is the sous-chef?

Kris



SEPTEMBER 14

## Live Creative Day

On this, National Live Creative Day, use your imagination and create your own prompt.

Kris



SEPTEMBER 15

## Online Learning Day PICTURE YOUR DAY

Online learning seems to be the norm for most learning these days. I have a funny relationship with online learning. As a professor who had never taught online until the spring, I much prefer seeing my students in the classroom. Online teaching seemed so impersonal to me. Yet, as a learner, I am thrilled with all of the things that I can learn online. I like that I can shop for an instructor with whom I feel comfortable. I like that I can learn in the middle of the night if that best fits my schedule. I like that I am not distracted by others in the classroom. Since I myself will be teaching the fall semester online as well, maybe I will be able to reconcile these two diametrically opposed perspectives.

Have you taken online classes? What have you learned? What do you like about online learning?

Kris



SEPTEMBER 16  
**Working Parents Day**

Every parent works...and works hard. During these pandemic times, creating a safe place for both parents and their children means that everyone is at home. For parents that have jobs beyond their parental responsibilities, this becomes a balancing act between homeschooling, childcare, and outside job commitments. And it is not easy, but we all do what we need to do!

What does your work life look like?

Kris



SEPTEMBER 17  
**Apple Dumpling Day**

Seeing all of the varieties of apples start arriving in the produce section is often the first sign of fall, which is my favorite season. Though I love to cook with apples, I don't often make apple dumplings. I'm not sure why. These things, loaded with some cinnamon, are delicious!

Photograph some apples today. In a basket, at the grocery store, in a pie, as a bowl of applesauce, or perhaps as a dumpling...the choice is yours!

Kris



SEPTEMBER 18  
**Cheeseburger Day**

When you see Cheeseburger Day, what do you think of first? The burger? Or the cheese? I'm not picky when it comes to a burger. Hamburger, turkey burger, veggie burger...they are all just a delivery system for all of the possible burger toppings. I am much more interested in what kind of cheese goes on my burger than the burger itself. My favorite cheese is smoked gouda, but I have a list of others that I enjoy almost as much.

What kind of cheese do you like on your burger? Photograph it. If you are not a burger eater, just photograph some cheese. Cheese comes in all kinds of shapes - circles, squares, rectangles, shreds. No cheese? Today might be a fun day to play with the composition of any objects that are basic shapes. Keep in mind that odd numbers of items work best. Also pay attention to the balance within the frame.

Kris





SEPTEMBER 19  
**Clean-Up Day**

National Clean-up Day encourages each of us to help keep our world beautiful by freeing it of litter and debris. What if we each picked up one piece of litter today? I think we'd all be surprised by how much better the world would be if every single person picked up just one piece of litter as we go about our day.

Photograph your contribution to making our world a cleaner place. Or, photograph a place in your area that has benefitted from people collectively caring about maintaining its beauty by keeping it free of litter and debris.

Kris



SEPTEMBER 20  
**Punch Day**

Now this day you can take a lot of ways. Either by throwing a few punches at someone or something, using tools to punch a hole, as in a hole punch or even make a thirst-quenching drink.

The word punch is a loanword from Hindi panch (meaning five). Originally, punch was made with five ingredients: alcohol, sugar, lemon, water and tea or spices. It was called paantsch.

So how are you going to show punch today?



SEPTEMBER 21  
**Chai Day**  
MACRO MONDAY

On September 21, the aroma filling the room comes from ancient spices, perfectly steeped into a cup of delicious tea. National Chai Day celebrates the strong, satisfying tea that's ordered at cafes across the country.

Most chai teas are made from oxidised and fermented black tea leaves and combined with spices including cardamom, fresh ginger, black pepper, ground cloves or whole cloves, cinnamon and fennel. Chai recipes call for both black and green cardamom pods depending on the region.

Additionally, some chai tea blends contain black peppercorns, nutmeg, coriander seed, fennel seeds, allspice, and star anise. These chai spices contain powerful botanical elements including antioxidants, anti-inflammatory properties and antibacterial microorganisms that lend chai tea its extraordinary health benefits.

It is Macro Day, so let us get in close and take some photos of the ingredient that you would love to include in your cuppa.

Lee



SEPTEMBER 22  
World Car Free Day

A Car-Free Day encourages motorists to give up their cars for a day. Organised events are held in some cities and countries.

According to The Washington Post, the event promotes improvement of mass transit, cycling and walking, and the development of communities where jobs are closer to home and where shopping is within walking distance. Studies showed that for short trips in cities, one can reach more quickly using a bicycle rather than using a car.

But since Lockdown who has been using their cars as much? Not me, that is for certain. Our car sits in our drive most of the time.

Pick a form of transport that you use instead of your car, be it a bicycle, the public bus, a horse or shanks pony!

Lee



SEPTEMBER 23  
Teal Talk Day  
COLOR - TEAL

Today you are encouraged to talk about ovarian cancer. Over 249,000 women are diagnosed annually with ovarian cancer worldwide.

In the absence of a test, awareness is best. Let them know early detection improves survival rates by 90%. Know the symptoms: Persistent bloating, lack of energy, loss of appetite, and feeling fuller sooner, are just some of the symptoms.

To show your support for this day, take a photo of something Teal.

Lee



SEPTEMBER 24  
Punctuation Day

A period, a comma, a semicolon, a question mark and an exclamation point are examples of some of the punctuation used in writing. They separate sentences and their elements to clarify meaning. Without them, meaning would be lost or up for interpretation.

Now, I am the worst person at putting all punctuation in the wrong place. Words are not my thing!

Today I challenge you to find some bad punctuation and take a photo of it, if you can't find some, find a quote that has something to do with punctuation that goes with a photo.

Lee



SEPTEMBER 25  
World Dream Day

Sometimes the dream is more of a wish or desire for something to come true. The famous speech made by Martin Luther King, Jr. relayed his desire for civil rights and an end to racism. Even if those things have not been fully realised, his dream had an enormous impact. This is why goals are so important. They don't just have to remain fantasies. Sometimes with hard work and dedication, they can become a reality. Not only to improve your life but to make the world a better place.

This double exposure shot was taken using my camera only, then slightly edited in Lightroom. Double exposure can be created within your camera or you can do it in Photoshop or Gimp. You need two photos, a base photo say a portrait, a tree, an object, a dog! Then you need a layer photo, that is a landscape, a cityscape, an abstract.

If you don't use your camera you can take the two shots into Photoshop to do the magic, there are a lot of tutorials on how to do this, if you need any further help, please do ask.

What are your dreams made of today?

Lee



SEPTEMBER 26  
Save your Photos Day

Sadly every year thousands of photos are lost to natural disasters, fires, or other accidental mishaps. September is Save Your Photos month, which reminds us to safeguard these treasures. Photographs, whether digital or physical, are important. They represent the moments and the milestones of our lives and everything in between.

As you can see I have a lot to sort out too!

How we save our photos has changed a lot over the years! The boxes of photos tucked away in the attic can be digitalized. Our cameras can upload our photos in real time to the cloud. There are a wide variety of options from external hard drives to cloud storage and resources like saveyourphotos that are here to help.

So your photos are safety backed up so now what?

To celebrate they recommend displaying and sharing your favorites with others or better yet with us today!

Lee



SEPTEMBER 27  
World Tourism Day

Since 1980, the United Nations World Tourism Organization has used this day to shine a spotlight on the benefits of tourism; not only it's economic value to communities but the social, political, and cultural value as well.

The 2020 theme is BUILDING PEACE! FOSTERING KNOWLEDGE! Travel helps us connects by raising our awareness and bridging the gap of our societal differences by challenging our understanding of unique cultures.

At it's simplest travel opens the world for us to see the beauty and diversity of our planet. Today we're asking you to play tourist and go on a scavenger hunt to explore the beauty of your surroundings. Then compile your photos & share them with us! I can't wait to tour somewhere new today!

Here's your List:

- |                                |                             |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Something Tall</b>          | <b>A Statue or Landmark</b> |
| <b>Something on the Ground</b> | <b>Color Blue</b>           |
| <b>Where are You</b>           | <b>A Sign</b>               |
| <b>Fits in your hand</b>       | <b>With Numbers</b>         |
| <b>Triangle Shaped</b>         |                             |

Amy



**SEPTEMBER 28**  
**Family Day**

The day was started to give us a bit of leisure time outside of the "hustle and bustle" of our routines. The day is to encourage families to gather and enjoy a meal together; call each other and find out about one another's day; to take some time to check in and appreciate the special folks in our lives.

Due to the pandemic, our routines have definitely changed. Gathering looks different! For some we are with our families more and others not enough. Maybe you FaceTime with family, have cocktails over Zoom with friends or share in some Snapchat silliness with the grandkids.

Show us what checking in looks like to you!

We might learn a new way to connect today!

Amy



**SEPTEMBER 29**  
**International Coffee Day**  
**PHONE**

For many of us, coffee is a must have essential item for daily survival. It is always near by helping to start the day off and there to keeping it going.

Coffee is also the perfect photography model!

- You can dress it up in a pretty mug with an artsy frothy top.
- You can dress it down in a simple to-go cup with recyclable sleeve.
- It never complains about how many photos you take or from what angle.
- It's readily available in a variety of ways depending on your mood; hot, cold, frappe, ice cream.
- Not a coffee drinking no worries! Substitute your favorite beverage I'm sure it will make a great model too!

Today make it a phone photo - the more we practice with our phones the better we will be when we've left our "big" cameras at home!

Amy



**SEPTEMBER 30**  
**Women's Health & Fitness Day**

Today promotes the largest event for women's health of all ages.

Across the country, an estimated 80,000 to 100,000 women of all ages gather at local health and fitness events. They join in groups large and small. From senior centers to hospitals, parks and health clubs, women of all fitness levels encourage each other to begin or continue a healthy journey.

As photographers I think many of us enjoy getting out and about especially when we can have our cameras in hand. So today lets do just that! Take a stroll, walk or a hike. Venture far and wide or don't leave your yard.

Whatever works for you then share what you find!

Amy

# 365 Picture Today

## SEPTEMBER PROMPTS

- |    |  |    |   |
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| 3  | U.S. Bowling League Day                        | 18 | Cheeseburger Day                        |
| 4  | Wildlife Day                                   | 19 | Clean-Up Day                            |
| 5  | Cheese Pizza Day                               | 20 | Punch Day                               |
| 6  | Read a Book Day                                | 21 | <b>Macro Monday</b> - Chai Day          |
| 7  | <b>Self Portrait</b> - Labor Day               | 22 | World Car Free Day                      |
| 8  | Ampersand Day                                  | 23 | <b>Color Teal</b> - Teal Talk Day       |
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| 11 | Hot Cross Buns Day                             | 26 | Save your Photos Day                    |
| 12 | Encouragement Day                              | 27 | World Tourism Day                       |
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# 365 Picture Today

## SAME STUFF, DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE

We have all had a time where a group has had a shared experience and when that group reminisces about it, each person's account is slightly different. It is perspective that creates those differences. Personal perspective has roots in both our physical and emotional place at the time of the experience.

As many of us have not ventured very far in the last few months, we may be becoming bored with our daily photos. Do you find yourself thinking, "Same stuff, different day?" It may be helpful to change that thought to, "Same stuff, different perspective." In photography, perspective is how we convey a three-dimensional object with a two-dimensional image. In other words, how we convey depth and spatial relationships. Our job as photographers is to make the viewer believe that they are looking at something that is three-dimensional.

These are some basic techniques used to create a three-dimensional feel:

- **Leading Lines** that pull the viewer into and through an image.
- **Forced Perspective** tries to trick our seeing with regard to size and spatial relationships.
- **Layers** create a foreground, middle ground, and background in an image. The foreground is darker and more in focus and the background becomes lighter and less focused. These changes in focus and saturation help to create depth in the image.

Here are some simple things that you can do to play with perspective and perhaps bring new and interesting life to familiar subjects:

- 1 Change your focal length
- 2 Change your aperture
- 3 Change your vantage point - photograph the same subject from above, below, and at eye level
- 4 Use natural framing of your subject
- 5 Be intentional with your foreground, middle ground, and background composition

Take a few hours this month and photograph the same subject in different ways, changing one thing at a time and observing how the photo's story changes. What are your preferences? Being intentional with your choices in each photograph you take helps to ensure that your photo conveys the intended story and helps your personal style to emerge.

## PHOTOGRAPHY TIP OF THE MONTH

### MOVE YOUR FEET

Don't just stand there, we all have the habit of standing in the same place from the same angle, so make sure you move it around a bit, get down low on the ground, or stand on ladder (make sure someone is holding it) We all need to get out of our eye-level rut.

## 365 Picture Today TEAM



**AMY**

**contact: amy@365picturetoday.com**

My favorite season to photograph is Spring! Everyday there is something new in bloom!



**GARNETT**

**contact: garnett@365picturetoday.com**

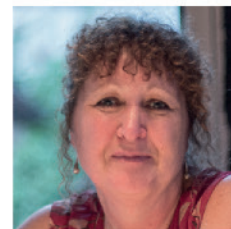
My favorite season to take photographs is Spring. I love all of the new growth and the beautiful flowers emerging. Everything is green and lush and full of color. I also like the temperature before it gets too hot and humid!



**KRIS**

**contact: kris@365picturetoday.com**

My favorite season to photograph is (late) fall. I like the colors, but I also like that the shapes and textures of things in nature that are revealed once the leaves and blooms have dropped. For me, there is much beauty in that starkness.



**LEE**

**contact: lee@365picturetoday.com**

Personal my favourite season is Summer, but for photography it has to be Autumn, all those rich golden colours in the forest with the sun low in the sky during the day, and usually here in Northern Europe we get mist or fog to add to the mix.